



KELLY'S CRIME CORNER

July 2012 Issue 2



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NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Neighborhood Watch is a program sponsored by the Costa Mesa Police Department, through the Crime Prevention Unit and operated by the residents of Costa Mesa. Its purpose is to reduce crime, increase recovery of stolen property, and apprehend criminals by creating an aware neighborhood through simple techniques.

Some of the areas covered include:

- Proper home security
- How to identify suspicious persons and activities
- Proper marking of valuables
- What makes a good neighbor?

When you start the program, you will find yourself getting to know your neighbors and neighborhood activities. The idea is neighbors helping neighbors by keeping an eye on each others' homes and property. By doing this, you and your neighbors will become the "eyes and ears" of your neighborhood. No one knows your neighborhood as well as you do, and you will be a part of the police-community partnership to help reduce the crime rate!

HOW DO YOU START A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM?

- Contact the Crime Prevention Unit at 714 754-4876 to set up the date and time. You will be provided with flyers to pass out to your neighbors
- The best location is in a home (usually yours)
- Invite neighbors on both sides of you, across the street, behind your home, and as many as you can on the street, keeping in mind that usually half will show up
- Follow up a few days before the meeting to remind everyone of the date. It is this final notification that brings the response!



JOGGING SAFETY

- Know your running route. Be familiar with your surroundings
- Avoid running in the early morning or at night
- Be aware of the terrain. Watch for cracks and potholes in the sidewalk and road
- Always bring a form of identification in a pocket or in your running shoes
- Carry a cell phone with you. There are many types of arm and wrist bands with zipper pockets that can hold a cell phone
- Be sure to inform someone that you are going for a run.
- Wear reflective clothing to increase visibility
- Know your routes, and don't take the same route every day. Vary the route so that your running routine is not too

obvious

- Try to avoid wearing head sets while running alone. Not only can you not hear the cars coming up behind you, you also can't hear a person running behind you. If you must listen to music, wear the head phones in only one ear
- Find a reliable running buddy



LARGE ITEM COLLECTION PROGRAM

Per the City's code, discarding large items on public right-of-way and alleys is considered illegal dumping. Items left illegally in the alleyway by the owners or tenants of a property are the responsibility of the property owner. These items include household furniture, such as mattresses, couches, tables, chairs and bookcases. Also included are appliances such as refrigerators, televisions, microwaves, washers and dryers.

To avoid a warning notice and/or an administrative citation, please take advantage of the large item collection program offered through the Costa Mesa Sanitary District and CR&R, your local trash collector.

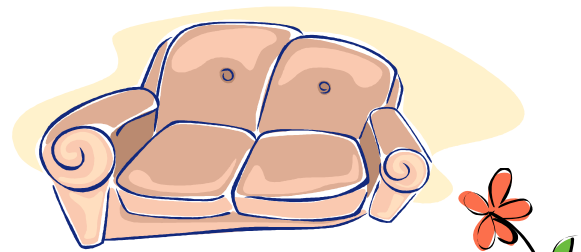
Each customer who receives weekly residential curbside trash collection service is eligible to receive three (3) large item collections per year. Pickups will be scheduled the same day as your regular trash collection. When you call in your request, you will be

asked to provide a list of items to be disposed. You may dispose of ten (10) items each time you request this service. To schedule your large item pickup, please call CR&R:

(949) 646-4617

If you live in a complex that has shared dumpster service, you need to contact your manager to find out who is responsible for your trash collection, and schedule a pick up with that company.

Let's all help keep Costa Mesa beautiful by eliminating illegal dumping!



Costa Mesa Police Department
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We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.costamesapd.org